

Your blog project is intended to serve **several purposes** and **fill many objectives**:[](http://www.google.ca/imgres?imgurl=http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_iDjkFNiOciI/TPWMpXdtgSI/AAAAAAAAAcc/BuSZ114xmMc/s1600/business_blogging1.jpg&imgrefurl=http://moniquelesterseointernetmarketing.blogspot.com/&usg=__1uLRqW5CiYdhnPm8wdNsaVCnR0M=&h=300&w=400&sz=82&hl=en&start=21&zoom=1&tbnid=jCbXoG4NPgIKiM:&tbnh=124&tbnw=173&prev=/images?q=blogging&um=1&hl=en&safe=active&sa=N&biw=1345&bih=567&tbs=isch:1&um=1&itbs=1&iact=hc&vpx=895&vpy=253&dur=1391&hovh=194&hovw=259&tx=141&ty=81&ei=YtglTZ-NFcvLngeOnYzRAQ&oei=O9glTduBAciKnQfh7cTnDQ&esq=3&page=2&ndsp=21&ved=1t:429,r:12,s:21)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Purposes | Objectives | |
| * To express your response to the sub-units and literature * To relate the unit and literature topics to literature / movies / music that suits your own personality and tastes * To share these with an audience – your peers * To compose writing in an authentic setting * To develop a voice in your writing * To link to websites and sources with related materials | | * Revise and polish compositions * Share and present compositions * Write engaging introductions * Develop ideas, rather than just restate them. * Demonstrate coherence and smooth writing using transitions * Organize ideas in multi-paragraph compositions * Compose suitable endings * Analyze and evaluate each other’s writing * Write for variety of purposes:   + Reflect, clarify, explore ideas   + Express understanding   + Express self   + Create and entertain | |

**You must choose three of the following sub-unit topics and write two paragraphs for each.   
(3 topics x 2 pars each = 6 paragraphs)**

* Mystery and Suspense
* The Unexplained
* Fantasy
* Science Fiction
* Challenges
* Quests and Adventures
* Struggle and Achievement

**Paragraph one is more formal:**   
You must choose one piece of literature we studied in that sub-unit and describe how it is a good example of that type of writing or topic. You must include the title and author’s name, if known.

**Paragraph two is less formal and more personal:**  
You must choose an example of that sub-unit that suits your personality or tastes. It may be a novel, poem, short story, song, or movie and you must describe what characteristics exist in that example to support it fitting that type of genre.

**Paragraph Format**: Your paragraphs should be somewhat similar to a literary body paragraph, except you won’t have to include a integrated reference. The following may be a general format guide:

1. Topic sentence – introduce genre / sub-unit topic
2. Description and example (title / author)
3. Explanation for how it suits genre / sub-unit topic
4. Evidence – instance in the literature as proof of par. Topic
5. Elaboration – opinion of genre or its popularity
6. Summary sentence – par topic back on point

Things to consider when writing for your blog:

* **Write to your audience:** You can play with your “writer’s voice”, if you wish, but avoid making your writing too playful or comical. Remember it is still a formal project for your course. The writing that is the most engaging is meaningful and thoughtful.
* **Design:** There are many templates to choose from when picking a design for your blog. Avoid spending too much time on this, though, as it will not be marked. Pick something that suits your personality, but focus on the content and expression you include in your posts.
* **Pics / Links / Vids:** You may add pictures and links to your blog to further engage and interest your reader. It is also meaningful as it shows a representation of your topic. Avoid excessive use of pictures and keep their size relative to your blog post length.
* **Comments:** For every blog post you write, you are expected to comment on another person’s blog post. To create a group-sense online, write your comment on a friend’s blog post and then add a link to that friend’s post in your own post. This way, readers can follow your writing to several sites and also read similar work to compare to your own.

To look at examples of student blog posts, go to [Waldner.edublogs.org](http://waldner.edublogs.org/) and choose from a student blog on the right-hand side.

Example: Use the structure of the paragraph as a guideline, so the format (bones) is there, but you can write freely to demonstrate your own style.

When people go to the big book stores to look for newly released novels by their favorite authors, they usually gravitate towards the same locations in the store, which for some is the Fantasy section. These types of stories don’t interest other readers, but for those hooked by this type of storytelling there are a lot of authors to choose from. In class, we studied several fantasy pieces, the most impressive being “The Raven” by Edgar Allen Poe. For those that don’t know the tale, the poem is told by a first person narrator who is plagued recently by the death of his beloved Eleanor and thinking of the afterlife, when he was intruded upon by a mysterious Raven who seems to speak to him. The most intriguing part of the poem is the format in which the author wrote it, demonstrating great use of figurative language and his own accomplished style of writing. There are several other titles that most readers would be familiar with, like The Lord of the Rings or Harry Potter. These fantastical stories are popular because they are most entertaining.

**Assessment Rubric**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 5 Advanced | 4 Comprehensive | 3 Basic | 2 Incomplete | 1 Fails to Meet Requirements |
| 1. Content Focused   * On topic * Includes support for evidence * Meaningful / thoughtful |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Voice / Writing Style   * Full sentences * Transitions between sentences * Writing to an audience * First person (I, We) * Smooth writing style |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Paragraph Format   * Formal structure * Formal writing, full sentences * Topic / summary sentences * Developed sentences (not short / choppy) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Spelling / Grammar   * Correct spelling * Appropriate use of punctuation, capitals |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Comments   * One comment for each post * Includes link to friend’s blog post that you commented on * Meaningful discussion of writing / opinion * Constructive criticism |  |  |  |  |  |

/ 25 marks Comments